



## Chapter 5

# Goals and Objectives

### Kansas Solid Waste Management Plan

#### INTRODUCTION

The state's goals and objectives related to solid waste management for the next five years are presented in this section. Many of the objectives set in the 1996 Kansas Solid Waste Management Plan are ongoing and are carried over into this plan. In some cases, prior objectives have been refined and several new objectives have been added. Most of the goals and objectives give direction to KDHE but in several instances, responsibility for the required action is shared between other parties.

#### SUBJECT AREAS

The goals presented in this section are organized and presented in the following subject areas:

- Data Needs
- Local Solid Waste Management Planning
- Public and Private Partnerships
- Adequacy of the Solid Waste Management System
- Adequacy of Laws and Regulations
- Technical Training and Assistance
- Public Education and Awareness
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Waste Reduction
- Wise Use of State Resources

Each goal is briefly discussed below and the related objectives are presented.

#### GOAL 1: IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF DATA RELATED TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

As in 1996, there continues to be a need for better and more expanded data related to solid waste management in Kansas. Solid waste data management has been a focus during the last four years and much progress has been made in meeting all objectives presented in the 1996 plan. Solid waste data management will continue to remain a focus during the next five years.

Eight objectives have been identified and are presented below:

Objective 1 - KDHE will continue to gather and develop representative waste composition data.

Objective 2 - KDHE will continue to gather data on the quantities and types of "other" solid wastes generated in Kansas and their corresponding management methods.

Objective 3 - KDHE will continue to gather data on the amount and types of wastes diverted from landfills into recycling, composting, or other recovery programs. KDHE also will gather data on the number and types of solid waste programs operating statewide and how they are financed.

Objective 4 - KDHE will continue to quantify information on the amount and types of solid waste imported into Kansas.

Objective 5 - KDHE will continue to update information on existing and planned landfill capacities.

Objective 6 - KDHE will continue to update information on the number and type of all waste management facilities in Kansas.

Objective 7 - KDHE will continue to update information on inspection, compliance, and enforcement actions at solid waste facilities.

Objective 8 - KDHE will maintain historical information on all revenue to and expenditures from the solid waste management fund.

In order to meet these objectives, KDHE will maintain certain existing data bases which are used to compile data taken from a variety of sources including permit applications, compliance records, tipping fee payment records, and other routine reports. Where data gaps exist, the department will work with landfill operators and public works directors to obtain necessary information.

## **GOAL 2: STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING SHALL BE MET**

Solid waste management planning is predominately a function of individual counties. In some cases, counties have “partnered” together to form regional planning authorities in order to meet the statutory requirements related to solid waste management planning.

State law requires counties and/or regional planning authorities to prepare and submit a workable plan for management of solid waste in each county or planning area. The initial plans were required to be submitted within one year of completion of the 1996 Kansas Solid Waste Management Plan.

After completing the initial solid waste management plan, each county, through its Solid Waste Management Committee, is required to annually review its plan. Every five years a public hearing must be held on the plan and future goals of solid waste management in the county or region.

Four objectives related to local solid waste planning were presented in the 1996 plan and six objectives are included in the current plan. Responsibility for meeting most of these local solid waste planning objectives rests with the counties or planning regions, with support from KDHE.

Objective 1 - Counties and/or regional planning authorities shall perform annual reviews of their solid waste plans and submit documentation to KDHE that the reviews have been completed.

Objective 2 - Counties and/or regional planning authorities shall hold public hearings every five years and submit documentation to KDHE that the reviews have been completed.

Objective 3 - Counties, designated cities, or regional solid waste planning authorities should consider establishing new or updated waste reduction goals or new waste reduction programs as part of their comprehensive plan reviews and updates.

Objective 4 - County and regional solid waste management plans should be improved so that they are user-friendly reference tools.

Objective 5 - Regions that are no longer effectively working together should be reorganized or disbanded.

Objective 6 - KDHE shall provide technical and financial assistance to counties or regions as they update their plans and/or reorganize their existing regions.

**GOAL 3: FORM AND STRENGTHEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO ESTABLISH MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

Public and private partnerships are very important with respect to establishing and maintaining the most efficient and effective solid waste management system in Kansas. Persons and organizations involved with solid waste management should have a clear understanding of the existing needs, roles, responsibilities, and authorities of all affected parties.

Three objectives related to partnering were presented in the 1996 Kansas Solid Waste Management Plan and four objectives are included here. In most instances, these objectives can be met only by continuing to work as partners at all levels of solid waste management.

Objective 1 - The next comprehensive update of the state solid waste plan should be prepared by KDHE in 2005.

Objective 2 - The roles and responsibilities of all parties involved with solid waste management should be reassessed and understood.

Objective 3 - Efforts should be made by all parties to facilitate the formation and strengthening of partnerships at local levels.

Objective 4 - KDHE should facilitate state, regional, and national partnerships by providing technical assistance through workshops, conferences, and the local planning process.

**GOAL 4: ASSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF AN ADEQUATE STATEWIDE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

The availability of an adequate network of solid waste management services and facilities across

the state is essential to protect human health and the environment for Kansas residents. KDHE is responsible for monitoring both the availability and adequacy of the state's solid waste management system and assuring that solid waste management facilities, both currently operating and closed, are designed, constructed, and operated protectively. Local officials and others also must help determine if solid waste management needs are being met.

Four objectives related to this goal were included in the 1996 plan while seven objectives are now provided.

Objective 1 - KDHE should continue to monitor the availability/adequacy of solid waste disposal facilities statewide by performing site inspections and by reviewing various submitted reports related to facility operations.

Objective 2 - KDHE should continue to assure that abandoned, closed, or closing solid waste disposal sites are properly managed so as to be protective of human health and the environment.

Objective 3 - County and regional solid waste plans should continue to assure that all residents and businesses of Kansas have access to solid waste collection, disposal, recycling, composting, and household hazardous waste services.

Objective 4 - Local officials and/or businesses should continue to evaluate current waste management methods to determine whether alternative practices should be adopted.

Objective 5 - KDHE should assure that facilities which generate, store, treat, process, or dispose of solid waste are managed according to practices that prevent releases to the environment and minimize nuisances by performing routine compliance inspections at permitted facilities and by investigating all complaints at all facilities.

Objective 6 - KDHE and local planning authorities should monitor landfill disposal capacities to assure that long-term disposal options exist.

Objective 7 - KDHE should develop information on the costs and types of various waste management systems across the state for use by local planners and elected officials when reviewing their own systems.

### **GOAL 5: ASSURE THE ADEQUACY OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

In order to assure that solid waste is managed in a way which is protective of both human health and the environment, the Kansas Legislature has enacted certain statutes and empowered KDHE to write administrative regulations addressing solid waste management. However, solid waste management is constantly changing and state statutes and regulations must remain current.

In the 1996 plan, a single objective was listed under this goal. That objective has been refined and broadened so that five objectives are now listed in this area.

Objective 1 - KDHE shall continue to revise and update regulations as needed.

Objective 2 - KDHE shall establish and prioritize solid waste regulations that require updating and/or development.

Objective 3 - KDHE shall utilize public task forces and meetings to develop appropriate changes to existing or new regulations.

Objective 4 - KDHE shall review annually the solid waste statutes and initiate legislative action as authorized by the governor to address identified needs or deficiencies.

Objective 5 - KDHE should continue to maximize local flexibility with respect to selected waste management methods, facility design, and operational practices.

#### **GOAL 6: PROVIDE NECESSARY OR REQUIRED TECHNICAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT TRAINING TO THE REGULATED COMMUNITY AND KDHE STAFF**

Persons involved with solid waste management must have a good understanding of regulatory requirements and changing technologies in order to perform most effectively. In addition, KDHE staff must be well informed in all applicable technical matters to most effectively administer the solid waste regulatory and technical assistance programs.

Three objectives related to this goal were included in the 1996 plan and five objectives are now included. KDHE bears most of the responsibility for the work required to meet the objectives.

Objective 1 - KDHE shall continue to provide recommendations for solid waste training for the regulated community.

Objective 2 - KDHE, working together with other organizations, should continue to develop and present technical training workshops and seminars for the owners and operators of solid waste management facilities.

Objective 3 - KDHE shall develop and implement a training plan for all KDHE staff working in the solid waste program.

Objective 4 - KDHE, working together with other organizations, shall develop, promote, and implement training opportunities for business and industry on topics including “buy recycled”, waste minimization, cooperative marketing, and pollution

prevention.

Objective 5 - KDHE, together with other organizations as appropriate, will develop and present training to help county commissions, solid waste planning committee members, and municipal officials evaluate waste reduction opportunities, establish appropriate local waste reduction goals, and improve county solid waste management plans so they become user-friendly reference tools.

#### **GOAL 7: KEEP THE PUBLIC INFORMED ON ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The success of many solid waste management programs depends on having a well-educated public and business community. Participation in waste reduction programs in Kansas is generally voluntary; therefore, efforts must be made to keep the public educated on and aware of solid waste management efforts.

Two objectives were presented under this goal in 1996. Those two objectives are maintained and four new ones have been added in this plan update. KDHE will be primarily responsible for carrying out these objectives.

Objective 1 - KDHE should continue its public education and awareness efforts.

Objective 2 - KDHE should maintain and improve the Kansas Don't Spoil It campaign.

Objective 3 - KDHE should expand its overall environmental education initiatives, particularly in partnership with local program officials.

Objective 4 - KDHE should continue and expand environmental education in schools.

Objective 5 - KDHE's educational efforts should target litter, target illegal dumping, and encourage

waste reduction.

Objective 6 - KDHE should continue to support the “Keep Kansas Beautiful” campaign and work with the sponsoring entities to ensure consistency with the “Kansas Don’t Spoil It” campaign.

**GOAL 8: MAINTAIN AN EFFECTIVE COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM AS RELATED TO STATEWIDE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES AND OTHER REGULATED ACTIVITIES**

This goal was not specifically included in the 1996 Kansas Solid Waste Management Plan. However, five objectives have been identified as important with respect to compliance with applicable state laws and regulations. KDHE is responsible for conducting the work required in each of the objectives.

Objective 1 - KDHE staff should regularly inspect all permitted solid waste management facilities to assure compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Objective 2 - KDHE should respond to all complaints it receives regarding perceived problems with waste management practices and work with local agencies when appropriate to bring about corrections.

Objective 3 - KDHE should take consistent and appropriate enforcement actions when violations to solid waste laws and regulations are identified.

Objective 4 - KDHE shall enforce the conditions of grant contracts.

Objective 5 - KDHE should develop and implement a system of self-auditing for all owners and operators of permitted solid waste facilities.

## **GOAL 9: ENCOURAGE WASTE REDUCTION ACTIVITIES**

The area of waste reduction was not specifically included as a goal or recommendation in the 1996 plan. Rather, waste reduction was examined under other, more general, areas. In 2000, waste reduction has risen to a very high level of importance. Therefore, a specific goal related to waste reduction is included in this update along with six objectives. KDHE is primarily responsible for seeing that these plan objectives are met. Local officials and private service providers are more directly responsible for implementing actual waste reduction projects.

Objective 1 - KDHE should provide financial and technical assistance to facilitate local and regional efforts to reduce waste generation and disposal.

Objective 2 - KDHE should provide technical assistance and training of assessment tools to help communities determine the cost effectiveness of various waste reduction alternatives.

Objective 3 - KDHE should develop “Buy Recycled” program guidelines.

Objective 4 - KDHE should utilize technical resources produced by the U.S. EPA, such as the “Pay-as-you-throw” program, to assist local officials evaluate waste reduction options.

Objective 5 - KDHE should complete a market development assessment and select at least two commodities upon which to focus technical and financial assistance.

Objective 6 - KDHE should provide guidelines to counties and regional authorities to evaluate waste reduction options and to implement new or improved waste reduction goals, when appropriate.

Objective 7 - KDHE should assess regularly the status of waste reduction programs statewide to determine where deficiencies and needs exist.

## **GOAL 10: UTILIZE STATE SOLID WASTE PROGRAM RESOURCES WISELY**

State financial and staff resources available for solid waste program administration are limited and in high demand. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that these resources are used wisely to result in the greatest benefits to the largest number of Kansas citizens.

The responsibility for meeting the six objectives presented below rest with KDHE.

Objective 1 - KDHE shall prepare annual reports to the legislature on fund revenue, expenditures, and resource needs.

Objective 2 - KDHE shall prioritize solid waste program activities and associated expenditures focusing on the protection of human health and the environment, waste reduction, and resource conservation.

Objective 3 - KDHE shall evaluate the adequacy of solid waste tonnage fees to generate needed revenue for all aspects of the state solid waste program.

Objective 4 - KDHE shall seek public input regarding solid waste program activities and program expenditures.

Objective 5 - KDHE shall evaluate solid waste staff assignments and reassign staff as needed to address statewide needs.

